

RESOURCES FOR PREPARING A COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT OR PLAN

- I. RESOURCES FOR EVALUATING LOCAL HOUSING NEEDS OR DEVELOPING A HOUSING AND NEIGHBORHOOD RENEWAL PROJECT
 - A. Housing, Economic and Demographic Reports & Statistics

Links to the reports listed below, prepared in support of Montana's Consolidated Plan, and other reports prepared by the MDOC can be found at: http://housing.mt.gov/Hous_CP_HsgEconDemRptsStats.asp

Economic & Demographic Analysis of Montana, Volumes I, II, IIA, III and IIIA, Program Year 2007

Montana Economic & Demographic Databook, May 2007

Montana Housing Resource Directory, January 2007

Economic Benefits of Montana Department of Commerce Housing Program Activities, January 2007

Montana Housing Condition Study, February 2005

Montana Housing Needs Assessment, December 2004

<u>Price of Housing in Montana Reports</u>. *NOTE: the latest report MDOC has available was published in 2004 with 2003 data.*

Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing & Housing Choice, November 2004

B. Housing Rehabilitation Resources

Housing Rehabilitation Program Workbook

Designing and Initiating a Small Community Housing Program

<u>Housing Rehabilitation for Small Cities</u> - Second Edition prepared by the Council of State Community Development Agencies

<u>How to Design a Rental Rehabilitation Program</u> prepared by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Montana CDBG Publications Requests: http://comdev.mt.gov/CDD_CDBG_PUBS.asp

II. RESOURCES FOR EVALUATING LOCAL PUBLIC FACILITIES NEEDS OR DEVELOPING A PUBLIC FACILITIES PROJECT

MDOC has published technical guides that may be useful to local officials who are working on public facility problems, including:

Planning and Financing Community Water and Sewer Systems in Montana

<u>CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLANNING: A Strategic Tool for Planning and Financing Public Infrastructure</u>

The Water, Wastewater and Solid Waste Action Coordinating Team (W₂ASACT), has prepared two videos which can be loaned to communities on planning and financing community water and wastewater systems:

"Water and Waste Water: Funding Montana's Infrastructure Challenge"

"You Don't Miss Your Water Till Your Well Runs Dry"

To get a copy of the W₂ASACT videos, contact:

Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Renewable Resources Grant and Loan Program, P.O. Box 201601, Helena, MT 59620-1601; (406) 444-6668; http://dnrc.mt.gov/cardd/ResDevBureau/wasact/default.asp

or

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), Montana Department of Commerce; (406) 841-2791; website: http://comdev.mt.gov/CDD_CDBG.asp

Or

Treasure State Endowment Program (TSEP), Montana Department of Commerce (406) 841-2770; website: http://comdev.mt.gov/CDD_TSEP.asp

III. RESOURCES FOR PREPARING A COMMUNITY GROWTH POLICY

Montana Growth Policy Resource Book (January 2007)

This publication is intended to assist people involved with county and municipal planning in Montana. This publication describes and interprets the requirements of 76-1-601, MCA, Montana's Growth Policy law enacted by the 1999 legislature. It also lists many websites that can provide useful sources of information for local community planning in Montana.

Website: http://comdev.mt.gov/Includes/MTGrowthPolicyBook.pdf

III. SOURCES FOR ECONOMIC AND DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

In addition to the sources listed above under Section I (Housing, Economic and Demographic Reports & Statistics), another important source for housing-related data is MDOC's Census and Economic Information Center (CEIC, 4406/841-2738, http://ceic.mt.gov/), the official source of U.S. Census data for Montana. CEIC is located within MDOC's Business Resources Division and assists

individuals, businesses, governments, communities and economic development efforts by providing Montana demographic and economic information and statistics, as well as technical expertise.

CEIC is the designated state agency to provide user access to electronic data from the Census Bureau and to receive, reproduce, and distribute maps produced by the Bureau. CEIC maintains a collection of documents and electronic files that address the economy and population of the state (historical as well as current), including special papers and statistical reports from federal agencies and other Montana state agencies. CEIC is also coordinating Census 2000 programs in Montana with the Census Bureau. CEIC also compiles and updates the Montana County Statistical Reports, which are a collection of demographic and socioeconomic data for the state of Montana and its 56 counties and for the state.

The Census and Economic Information Center's web site, http://ceic.mt.gov/, allows clients to research and gather data in an easily accessible manner.

IV. SOURCES FOR MAPS AND OTHER DATA

A. U.S. Census Maps

Maps identifying the census districts within each county may be ordered from the Census and Economic Information Center (CEIC), Montana Department of Commerce, 301 South Park Avenue, Helena, Montana 59620, (Telephone 841-2738). Microfiche copies of the county census district maps are available free; paper copies of the maps may be purchased. As noted above, a wide variety of CEIC data can be accessed via the CEIC web page located at:

http://ceic.mt.gov/

B. County Maps and Urban Plat Maps

Maps of Montana's counties, cities and towns can also be ordered from the Road Inventory and Mapping Section, Montana Department of Transportation (MDT), 2701 Prospect Avenue, Helena, Montana 59620 (Telephone 444-6119). A wide variety of base maps for counties, cities, and towns as well as some unincorporated communities can be at this address or accessed via the MDT web page located at:

http://mdt.mt.gov/travinfo/maps/

C. Flood Plain Maps and Water Resource Information

Maps of designated flood plains may be ordered from the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC), Water Operations Bureau, 1424 9th Avenue, Helena, Montana 59620 (Telephone 444-0860). Website: http://dnrc.mt.gov/wrd/water-op/floodplain/default.asp

A wide variety of water resource-related information can also be accessed via the DNRC web page located at: http://dnrc.mt.gov/wrd/default.asp

D. Topographic Maps and Other Natural Resource Information

Maps depicting a variety of natural resource related information, as well as a wealth of other natural resource information, can be ordered from the Montana State Library, **Natural Resources Information System (NRIS,** http://nris.mt.gov/), 1515 E. Sixth Ave., Helena, MT 59620 (Telephone 444-2987,). NRIS programs include:

- ~ The Natural Heritage Program which maintains a computer-assisted inventory of Montana's biological resources, including rare and endangered plant and animal species.
- ~ the Water Information System is the starting point for locating water resources data on surface water, groundwater, water quality, riparian areas, floodplains, wetlands, and more.
- ~ The Geographic Information System (GIS) provides maps, map data, and technical assistance with computerized mapping.

The NRIS data can be accessed via the NRIS web page: http://nris.mt.gov/

A related web site is the Montana Fisheries Information System (replacing the Montana Rivers Information System), http://maps2.nris.mt.gov/scripts/esrimap.dll?name=MFISH&Cmd=INST